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**No. 1489**

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## MISSILE UNITS: TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

### Shore-to-Ship Exercises

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Lt. D. Yartsev: "A Missile Strike"]

[Text] The "enemy" ship, using weather conditions favorable to it, was trying to come into the assigned area unnoticed. The coastal missilemen's subunit was faced with the task: detect the surface target and strike it.

The missilemen's actions are well coordinated and extremely accurate. There are days of strenuous training behind the coordination and ability. The fighting men had been trained to perform training missile firings conscientiously. Each one tried to achieve perfection in his actions. The progressive experience of the best specialists was continuously summed up and incorporated into practice. Now, the seamen are trying to show their skill and earn the title of the most impressive ones in the contests for first place in the Navy in missile firing.

The seamen had selected the position for their launch mount well. WO [Praporshchik] M. Melekhov, the launch crew chief, had also considered the fact that a landing by "enemy" assault forces was possible. The site permitted a broad field of view.

Minimum time was set aside for the pre-launch preparation. However, the sense of collectivism is examined even here. Here, having completed your work, you do not rest. It is necessary to be sure to help those who are still busy checking the equipment. However, without the knowledge of an allied specialty, you will only hamper the comrade. In WO M. Melekhov's estimation, interchangeability was complete. Even the seamen who had recently arrived in the collective were ready to replace each other. This permitted the crew to take first place in the unit and achieve the right to participate in the contests for the navy championship.

They performed the loading quickly, exceeding the norms significantly. Sr Snn V. Potokin, a specialist 2d class and secretary of the subunit's

Komsomol organization, distinguished himself. Having managed his tasks quickly, he helped Snn Yu. Suvorov.

The target was detected at maximum range. Today, the "enemy" ship was simulating a surface target.

Launch!

Having left its launch rail, the missile travelled toward the target.

They kept on reporting from the posts about the missile's condition. You could not tell from the precise reports of Capt 3d Rank L. Kashkarov's subordinates that the young seamen, who were firing for the first time, had worked for this. An instant later, the joy of victory was on the faces of all the crew. The target had been destroyed with the first missile.

There was another crew on the firing line already. It is easier to some degree to fire second. It is possible to use the experience of the first launch. There is someone for the missilemen to compare their actions with. At the same time, it is impossible to make an error. Any mistake--even an insignificant one-- a delay in a report can lead to the loss of seconds and to a lessening in the range and accuracy of the missile strike.

WO B. Detsik, commander of the second launch crew, had considered all this. The experienced missileman and skilful organizer had quite a few expert launches to his credit. He has an irreproachable knowledge of the equipment. The warrant officer is persistent in seeing to it that each subordinate thoroughly studies operating instructions and his area of supervision, and knows how to act efficiently where there is an unexpected change in the situation. Thus, it is no accident that his pupils are now working with enthusiasm, confidently, and without breaks. This crew also achieves success, hitting the target accurately.

Ahead is the critique of the exercises, the summing up of the results of the competition between the crews. The senior chiefs will point out deficiencies and designate the best ones. For the present, there are sincere congratulations for each other on the success.

#### Book on Missilemen Reviewed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Aug 79 p 2

[Review by Marshal of Artillery G. Peredel'skiy of the book "Raketchiki" [Missilemen] edited by M. V. Grigor'yev, Izdatel'stvo DOSAAF, 1979, 136 pages.

[Text] The DOSAAF Publishing House has put out a book called "Raketchiki" [Missilemen]. Its subject is defined in the title itself. This interesting

and well illustrated book, which is written in a lively and popular style, tells about the history of the development of missile technology and missile weapons, the formation of Soviet missile forces, missile fighting men, their exploits during the Great Patriotic War, and the difficult but honorable days of performing service while protecting our socialist motherland during the postwar period.

The authors talk in detail and with animation about the trail blazers of our native missile weapons. They cite a lot of interesting information about such scientists as F. Tsaider, V. Vetchinkin, N. Rynin, and others. The reader will find quite a bit of fascinating material on academician S. Korolev, a prominent missile designer, and the joint work of N. Tikhomirov and V. Artem'yev, the first developers of missiles working on solid fuel.

The pages which talk about the history of the development of multiple rocket launcher mounts and their creators and the superiority of the Soviet Union in this field have obvious interest. The book talks in sufficient detail about the first jet scientific research institute which developed 15 liquid fueled ballistic missiles, nine cruise missiles, and missile plans during the eight years before the war. All this is called upon to show the superiority of our motherland in missile matters and to emphasize that our country's present successes in the mastery of the cosmos and in the creation of modern missile weapons are a result of the selfless labor of the collectives of missile enthusiasts, who worked in such scientific centers as the Gas Dynamics Laboratory, the Jet Propulsion Study Group, and the Jet Scientific Research Institute.

The authors recount the formation of the first units of rocket artillery, its development as a new type of artillery during the last war, and the role it played in achieving victory on battlefields. The exploits of the first multi-barrel rocket launcher battery commanded by Capt I. Flerov and the mass heroism of mortar guardsmen are described in a detailed and fascinating manner. A whole gallery of rocket artillery unit and subunit commanders--the immediate organizers and directors of battles -- is presented. Quite a few striking and stirring pages are devoted to communists and Komsomol members who distinguished themselves in battles against the German fascist invaders. Political worker Gorodilov of the 192d Guards Mortar Regiment, battalion commander Major Shpryayev, Lieutenant Alekseyev, Senior Sergeant Koroteyev, guardsmen communists Dubkin and Ryazin, and many others are presented to us as people of this type.

A large place in the book is devoted to the history of the creation of long range ballistic missiles, to their description, and to the history of the creation of nuclear weapons in the USSR. The authors reveal in a well

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"Raketchiki", a collection of authors. Under the direction of Col Gen M.G. Grigor'yev, Izd-vo DOSAAF, 1979, 136 pp., price: 1 ruble 80 kopeeks.

reasoned manner the causes which impelled the party's Central Committee and the Soviet government to make a decision to create atomic weapons.

The authors talk warmly and in an absorbing manner about "the commander of troops of the atomic front" and the scientific director of our native nuclear industry, academician I. Kurchatov.

The creation of the Strategic Rocket Forces in 1960 and their first commanders are talked about in sufficient detail in the collection. The authors acquaint the reader with the nature and complexity of the tasks placed on this branch of the armed forces, and also tell about the enormous importance which the combat watch performed around the clock by missile fighting men has for the defense of our motherland and for preserving peace.

In narrating about the present days of missilemen, the authors point out that the young fighting men have inherited all the best combat traditions of the older generation of defenders of the motherland. Along with this, qualities which reflect the fundamental changes in military affairs have appeared in the make-up of a modern soldier. The ability to master complicated combat equipment and weapons perfectly, a high political awareness, and a thorough understanding of their military duty characterize those who are serving in the missile forces today.

One of the book's chapters is devoted to the troops augmenting military traditions. It tells about the missilemen's courage and bravery demonstrated by them during peacetime. Using convincing examples, the authors are able to show that the relay race of exploits is in reliable hands. Glorious military traditions are not only being sacredly preserved but are also being multiplied each day.

The book convincingly shows that the history of the development of missile weapons is inseparably linked with the herculean work of the Communist Party and the Soviet government and of all Soviet people, which is aimed at increasing the defensive capability of the Soviet state and the countries of the socialist commonwealth.

The fact that the book's authors are direct participants in the creation and formation of the Strategic Rocket Forces is a virtue of the book.

However, there is every basis for lamenting the fact that undeservedly little attention is devoted to the missile and artillery troops of the Ground Forces in a book having such a general title as "Raketchiki." In our opinion, this is an important deficiency in the book. It would be possible to point to a whole series of inaccuracies and slips of the tongue made by the authors. However, these shortcomings cannot lower the overall positive rating of the book. It teaches one to love one's motherland to remember the glorious traditions of front line heroes, and to increase them in military work.

## Missile Crew Competition Results

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Col-Engr A. Baryshnikov "This is the Way Excellent Launch Personnel Are Trained"]

[Text] The final stage of the contests for the title of best crew and best specialist in the surface-to-air missile troops of the Air Defense Forces took place during an especially strenuous struggle. The best of the best came to the competitions from all corners of our motherland, from the most remote points. Many crews and specialists demonstrated high tactical, special and technical training. The difference in the level of training was, as a rule, small.

The championship was conferred on the combat crews which Capt Ya. Tsymod, Lt V. Kalugin, and Guards Sr Sgt A. Aver'yanov command. Lt. V. Kalugin, WO [Pralporshchik] V. Sarapulov, Sgt N. Voznuyk, Jr Sgt S. Komar, Pfc. Kh. Shirgulyyev, and Pvts R. Yagminas, P. Yupatov, S. Arkhipov, Yu. Shehev'yev, M. Kuvarin, A. Zinevich, A. Audiyanko, and A. Kubilyus earned the title of best specialists.

The success of the launch crew, headed by Gds Sr Sgt A. Aver'yanov, from the guards surface-to-air missile regiment which Lt Col O. Fitkulov commands, makes one happy. As is known, the personnel of the unit came forward during the current training years as initiators of the competition in the Air Defense Forces and are stubbornly struggling to carry out high socialist obligations.

The experience acquired here in training launch crews especially in the battalion which Guards Lt Col V. Agafonov commands is interesting. From the first days of the arrival of new men in the battalion, the task of mastering a combat specialty was passed to each soldier. Special attention was paid to the troops' understanding of their role in the use of a crew-served weapon.

Then, officer Agafonov familiarized the men with the surface-to-air missile system and the organization of combat operations on it. Demonstrations were conducted during which the operation of the equipment and the combat capability of a surface-to-air missile weapon were demonstrated.

At the beginning of the training year, Sr Lt A. Ivanenko, a platoon commander devoted a lot of attention to practicing operations on the equipment according to its elements. Each crew member and crew as a whole worked on one of the operations of the norm within a prescribed time. Then, the operations of the entire norm, for example switching the missile from the travel position to the combat position, were performed as a whole. The time for doing this was not considered; major attention was paid to the correctness

of actions, the quality of work and the observance of safety precautions. As skills improved, the intensity of the training sessions and their saturation with various inputs grew.

After each crew member had practiced his functional duties at a rating no lower than "good", launch personnel moved to training session on protective measures and to night classes. The duties of allied specialties were practiced. The battery commander, Cap. N. Matveychuk, determined who had to master what allied specialty.

During the technical training classes, launch personnel studied the combat equipment and armament, sized up the physical processes which take place when tuning and adjusting mechanisms, and worked on technical maintenance measures and ways to perform adjustment operations. It is good that the fundamentals of electrical engineering, electronics, and missile technology had been studied first on a scale necessary for understanding the principles of the construction and operation of the arms being serviced, and the fundamentals of its combat employment.

Physical training is exceptionally important for launch crews. Therefore, besides planned classes on physical training, launch personnel are involved in sports sections and participate in various sports measures.

Guards Lieutenant Colonel Fitkuln, the regimental commander, provides a lot of help in the training of launch crews. In the past, he, himself, had undergone the stage of launch battery commander and is an expert in a military qualification. Therefore, having a thorough knowledge of all the fine points and peculiarities of the work of launch personnel, he provides highly qualified help to battalion and battery commanders in organizing the training process and competition. Thus, complex training sessions for launch personnel were organized and regularly conducted on his initiative.

I had occasion to be present during one of these training sessions. Targets were coming from different directions, using a great spread of altitude, speed and range. The work was performed both under normal conditions and in equipment for protection against weapons of mass destruction. Launch personnel operated full time.

The norms of combat operations were substantially exceeded during the exercises and training sessions.

The crucial contests confirmed the high effectiveness of the methods for training launch crews in this excellent regiment. The experience acquired here deserves detailed study and incorporation into the combat training practices of the surface-to-air troops of the country's Air Defense Forces.

## Regime & Training Exercise

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Lt Col V. Seledkin, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "Lightning Over the Steppes"]

[Text] The guards missilemen of the regiment which Guards Lt Col O. Fitkulik commands, passed a tactical exercise involving live firing with an excellent rating.

Since morning, stratus clouds had been gathering over the steppes which were covered with widely spaced squat bushes. After many days of sweltering heat when the sky over the range breathed scorching burning heat, the shape of one white cloudy shroud automatically cast the likeness of some kind of coolness on a launch position where the launch mounts were concealed in narrow hollows as if they had sunk from the weight of the combat rockets. However, in the cabin where a group of specialists headed by Guards Lt Col Agafonov waited for the order to start combat operations, there was not even this poor likeness of desired coolness.

The ventilators which were working at full speed were not able to dispel to any noticeable degree the humid oppressive heat which had settled in the narrow passage between the equipment cabinets. It seemed that the wavering semidarkness, capriciously thinned out by the lights of the signal lamps, reinforced even more the sensation of persistent and unabating heat emanating from the metal of the cabin. In such a hot (both in the literal and in the figurative sense) atmosphere, every second of waiting for a launch stretches out especially agonizingly.

They waited for it at the command post where during these moments the regimental commander, Guards Lt Col O. Fitkulik, was once again mentally evaluating each link in the missile complex that was prepared for a difficult test.

They waited for it at the launch position where only recently there was the rumble of the engines of the transporter-loaders.

They waited for it in the cabin of the radar set where the display screens had still not been covered by the ripples of the blip from the targets.

All the specialists, who now stood still near the equipment cabinets so as not to miss the short--like the missile launch itself--command, waited for this missile launch.

It would be incorrect to say that the path to this difficult examination was easy and simple for the guardsmen. Here, complications and problems seem indispensable. During one of the inspections, some specialists did not act in the best way. When the unit's command element and political section

analyzed the causes for the dereliction of duty, it unexpectedly turned out: some of the missilemen had counted on leniency. They said that initiators of the competition in the Air Defense Forces are forgiven small ships if they should occur.

A decisive struggle was declared against such attitudes. Commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol activists performed a lot of painstaking work in order to increase the effectiveness of socialist competition, and to attune all missilemen to the stubborn struggle for the complete performance of adopted obligations.

On the eve of the combat training firings, I met Guards Maj S. Terent'yev, a subunit commander. He had just returned from a training session. We stopped near the missilemen's tents where the bothersome wind did not throw the fine biting dust into one's eyes as much. The officer's carefully shaven and tanned face was, as usual, calm and filled with concentration. Only in the depths of his light intent eyes did tiredness peek through.

"Once again we have been working with the operators", he said "Training sessions against actual targets are especially useful."

I recalled how a year ago I had occasion to be present at a class which Guards Maj S. Terent'yev was conducting with the operators. He strove to use every opportunity to train the specialists in the ability to detect and track actual targets.

The methods of organizing the leading specialists' training sessions with the fighting men have been perfected in the regiment. They have received very broad dissemination. A well organized exchange of experience in socialist competition and the striving of all guardsmen to make active use of progressive principles and methods for training and the mastery of combat equipment, played a decisive role in this.

... The cabin's loudspeaker began to rumble:

"Target... Azimuth... altitude..."

Two thin green lines stretched equally on the display screen of the guidance officer, Guards Lt A. Ledenev. Seconds will pass and a small light blazes up on the upper of them with a sharp *mode*. Was it not risky to entrust the very important final operation to, in a point of fact, a new man in the collective?

Guards Maj A. Babich, a battery commander with whom we talked before the exercises, noted: "Before Guards Lt Ledenev received the right to occupy a work position near the end, figuratively speaking, of a missile conveyer, we convinced ourselves in the subunit that he possessed solid knowledge, multifaceted training, and the ability not to become flustered in a very complicated situation. Now, Guards Lieutenant Ledenev already performs his duties equal to a master of a military skill."

Guards Lieutenant Ledenev is not the only one of the young officers to whom the solution of complicated tasks was entrusted during the exercise. Guards Sr Lt V. Borshchenko and S. Vygovskiy, Guards Lt M. Polyantsev, and others of their compatriots had successfully managed the crucial volume of operations during all preceding stages. The concern of the regiment's command element and political section for the formation of young officers and for their military maturing is graphically seen in this.

"Pattalion, action! Receive the target...."

The voice of the launch control officer, Guards Lieutenant Colonel Agafonov rings out clearly and business-like. There is no fuss, there is no haste. How much this means in a combat training situation! The calmness and confidence of the launch control officer are transmitted to all the specialists in the cabin. The operators, Guards Pvts K. Yurevich and N. Alekseyev, look fixedly at the screens. Today, for the first time they are faced with participating in the conduct of a missile launch.

Guards Lieutenant Colonel Agafonov, master of a military skill, had to take a difficult examination about two dozen times. Now, he strives to direct all his accumulated rich experience to the successful performance of the assigned task. Others--the better trained missilemen, officers N. Tkachenko, L. Krudov, A. Kravchenko, Yu. Tyupa, and V. Kolosok,-- generously share their knowledge with the fighting men also.

... The low clouds, which had descended over the range, had not shed a single drop of beneficial rain. However, lightening flashed.

Striking missile lightning.

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## TANK UNITS: TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

### Regiment Training Shortcomings

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] Colonel F. Teleshev--While at the training center Colcnel V. Korneychuk, the chief of the formation's political section, turned his attention to the fact that there were obvious simplifications in the tactical training and tank gunnery drills conducted by companies in the battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel G. Logimakhov. This was especially true of the tank gunnery drills. The target situation at the principal training point of the tank firing range was never varied, and the crews fired their weapons only at a single variant of targets. Consequently they had a previous knowledge of the locations of the targets and the ranges to them. As a result one of the most important tasks of training--improving the habits of the soldiers pertaining to target reconnaissance and decision making in support of gunnery missions--was rendered totally nonexistent. If we add to this that not even an attempt was made at creating a tactical combat situation at the principal training point and that logistical support to the others was weak, the effectiveness of the tank gunnery drills is found to be generally transparent.

What does this all lead to? The obvious answer would be poor results in gunnery and tactical exercises. But this is not all. Another aspect of the work suffers significantly as well. After all, officers who relate so indifferently to the organization and conduct of drills are consequently doing serious harm to educational work with the troops. In fact, both Lieutenant Colonel Logimakhov and other officers of the battalion had explained the harm of simplifications to their subordinates many times, they spoke of the need for acting as in real combat, and they appealed for full devotion of effort to improving the gunnery and tactical skills and satisfying the adopted pledges. They did this in political lessons and political briefings, in conferences, and in discussions. We find, however, that they forget to respond to their own appeals. They themselves become guilty of simplifications. What value would subordinates consequently place on their words? How would statements subsequently made by these officers and their appeals to the personnel be perceived after this?

"The effectiveness of indoctrination drops significantly wherever a gap arises between word and deed..." states the CPSU Central Committee decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination." Presence of this sort of gap is obvious. Are the regimental deputy commander for political affairs and the party committee secretary aware of this?

The political section chief went straight to the unit headquarters from the training center. It turned out that the regimental political worker and the party committee secretary rarely attend the field drills in the companies and battalions, and when they do attend, they fail to delve as required into their organization and the methods employed; they are reluctant to think about all of the consequences of simplification, including the moral ones. My discussion with Colonel Korneychuk persuaded him that it was time for the officers to explain themselves to the political section.

The political section workers prepared themselves well for this discussion. They once again visited the regiment and its subunits, and they deeply analyzed the effectiveness of party influence upon the course of combat training and the work done by communists to combat cases of simplification. The discussion turned out to be business-like and principled. The regimental political workers and active party members were aided in discovering their own shortcomings, and they were given the necessary recommendations.

This was followed by an expanded session of the party committee in the regiment. This meeting went a long way to raise the exactingness communist officers displayed toward themselves and toward the level at which field drills were conducted. The regiment's political workers started attending field exercises regularly and, what is most important, their perception became keener and their attitude toward the shortcomings revealed became more concerned. Changes for the better became more noticeable both in the battalion mentioned above and in the entire unit.

"This example once again persuaded us of the need for personally attending drills and training sessions, especially wherever the fate of field skills is to be decided," said Colonel Korneychuk. "Not even the most detailed reports and messages can replace personal observations."

What is true is true. This is why Vasiliy Iosifovich can never be found lounging around in his office. He is well familiar with the road to the training range. One would find him most frequently at the tank driving range or one of the firing ranges. Being wherever the success of the effort is decided is a requirement that he also imposes on his immediate assistants and on all political workers.

It is entirely understandable that on their own, frequent visits to the "hot spots," where field skills are improved and the tank crews raise their technical proficiency, do not mean that the work is necessarily effective. It is important to delve deeply into the content of the training process as well. This in turn requires a good knowledge of tactics and of the

requirements of the guidelines and the corresponding methodological aids. It is not until you come to understand what is what, achieve the ability to reveal the best experience, and spot the simplifications that you will come to understand their causes and be able to suggest effective ways to eliminate the shortcomings. The political sections devotes constant attention to such training.

The political section officers make trips out to the practice range not only to generally acquaint themselves with the course of the training and with the way party-political work is organized in the units and subunits. The rule followed here is that for several days a week, a group of officers must stay in one of the units and study the state of affairs within a particular area of the life and training of the subunits. This naturally permits them to prepare purposefully for visits to the field, and for working more objectively there. As a rule the results of such trips are discussed at Monday meetings in the political section; comrades from the units mandatorily attend. The benefit of such discussion is always tangible.

This was true, for example, when Lieutenant Colonel A. Perminov and Major V. Dmitrenko discovered the following situation: One of the units was losing precious time going from one training place to another. The political organ validly deduced presence of education deficiencies behind this fact: The regiment had become accustomed to such time losses, feeling them to be insignificant and unavoidable. On recommendation by the political section, the impermissibility of condoning shortcomings in training organization and the importance of constantly seeking reserves for improving it were discussed at a regimental party meeting. It turned out that the problem was fully resolvable. The planning methods were reviewed, and the drill organization was improved. Time losses accompanying changes in training places have now been minimized.

This example is also instructive in the following regard. No matter how much initiative and energy officers of the political section contribute, they cannot get much done without relying on the party organizations. It is especially important to utilize the power of the staff-level party organization. After all, the overwhelming majority of communists at division staff head particular services and bear direct responsibility for training personnel in the particular specialty. A political section which maintains close contact with them is capable of doing a great deal against shortcomings in combat training.

Thus for example it was possible to warn the party organization of a regiment (one of the best in the district, incidentally) that some communists had begun to relax in gunnery training, that their previous successes had made them cocky, and that the personnel might lose their gains in the socialist competition. Exchange of opinions and information between workers of the political section and the officer of the appropriate service, Lieutenant Colonel N. Khimchenko, was what made it possible to reveal this

danger. Nikolay Grigor'yevich Khimchenko is the secretary of the party organization in the division's administration, and he does a great deal to see that staff communists rely in their official duties on the strength of the unit and subunit party collectives. Even in the case described here he appealed to the regiment's party office: "Let us think about what we can do...." As a consequence the regiment is still marching confidently among the leaders.

The help given by a political organ to commanders and party organizations in the struggle against simplifications in combat training has its unique features. As with work in all other areas, this work of a political organ is by essence political work. Mobilize the communists to put their all into their work, raise their sense of responsibility, inspire adherence to principles and dissatisfaction with present successes, and form an active life position: This is the key to success, the path that must be followed.

#### Crew Training Described

MOSCOW KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] Major V. Postrigancv--The tanks were beautiful and impressive as they traveled forward in combat formation. Usually miserly with his praise, the exercise leader was unable to restrain himself:

"The young drivers are advancing well."

Clarifying later on that many specialists came to the attacking battalion from training subunits at the beginning of the present summer, he added:

"We might even be able to train them well within a short time."

In order to persuade himself conclusively as to the proficiency of the tank crews, in the heat of the attack the exercise leader presented the following scenario: input: "Enemy" antitank guided missiles fired from long range struck several tanks in the company commanded by Lieutenant S. Chernikov.

This made the situation substantially more complex. Appraising it, battalion commander Major G. Mishchenko decided to commit a backup echelon company commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Kuzin against the missile launchers with the objective of destroying them by direct sighting. His superior approved the decision.

The performance of the tank crews left a good impression in this gunnery practice. The company's first volley hit one of the groups of targets right on the mark, scattering target fragments in all directions. Such, also, was the fate of the other groups of targets. The company spent significantly less time on this assignment than is required by the standard for an excellent score.

The success of the company and battalion tank crews can be explained by the high teaching proficiency of the commanders and their outstanding knowledge of the equipment and armament. Eighty percent of the subunit's officers are specialists in the top classes. They do not grumble, as happens in some places, about the inexperience of the tank commanders, gunners, and driver-mechanics coming from the training subunits; instead, they immediately subject them to meticulous training. The high training level of the officers make it possible for them to effectively organize training and indoctrination. All tank gunnery training sessions in the battalion are conducted in a spirit of rivalry, and the conditions of the training sessions are constantly made more and more complex. Failure to attend a planned training session is viewed here as an extraordinary incident. Daily trips by the tank crews to the training range for practical gunnery training sessions have become the rule in itself. These and other drills are conducted in close association with technical training.

The battalion command, staff, and party organization make sure that every soldier participates actively in the competition for excellent results in the gunnery exercises. Much significance is attached to efficient generalization and dissemination of the advanced skills. As an example the platoon commander learned a great deal from the way Lieutenant V. Gammersmit, an outstanding teacher, organized competition in tank gunnery exercises. The following form of experience exchange is broadly and effectively utilized in the subunit: immediately after firing practice, crews that hit their targets accurately explain to their fellow servicemen the methods and techniques they used in their combat work. Thus following a recent gunnery exercise Lieutenant A. Didenko, the Battalion Komsomol bureau secretary, took the initiative to ask gunners privates A. Norkin and V. Khandyuk, who hit all their targets each time, to explain in detail to their comrades how they followed the firing rules in the concrete conditions.

As we can see, good results can be expected from meticulous daily work with young specialists by commanders and the party organization: The novices are able to achieve noticeable successes in combat training within short time.

#### Regiment Maintenance Shortcomings

Khod. KHASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] Major M. Ziyemin'sh, Red Banner Far East Military District--A regimental order reflecting the results of a regular equipment inspection pointed out a number of shortcomings. Cases of poor quality maintenance of returning vehicles were noted in some subunits. Due to poor supervision by commanders, company technicians, and service specialists, technical problems were corrected more slowly than the interests of combat readiness demanded. The order made mention of Major M. Skrund', Senior Lieutenant S. Stepanov, and other officers who were responsible for certain shortcomings.

[Text] Half a year has passed since that order was published. What has been done to correct the shortcomings? Were we to judge from the status of

the subunits mentioned in the document, the situation has changed for the better. Much was done in the battalion in which Major M. Skrund' is the deputy commander for political affairs to achieve exemplary maintenance of the equipment and armament.

But how are things going in the other subunits? Not so well, unfortunately. Some companies in which the equipment had been maintained in outstanding condition earlier lost the positions they had gained. All of this reflected upon the unit's overall achievements. In the winter training period the regiment failed to attain the goals it planned for the competition.

And so, some subunits raised themselves up and found additional reserves for improving the quality of equipment maintenance, while others concurrently lost that which they had achieved with great difficulty. Thus we find that in order applying to one and all failed to serve its role to the end. Who was responsible where and why, and what must be done to correct shortcomings in all elements of the regimental organism?

It cannot help recalling a recent meeting of the district military council in which problems concerning care of equipment were touched upon. It was emphasized in this meeting that if there is even just a single inoperable vehicle in the motor pool, this is evidence of mismanagement and carelessness on the part of concrete officials. This is precisely the way we must pose the question. After all, the combat readiness of the subunit and the unit depends on the condition of the equipment. Even insignificant shortcomings in care and maintenance must be viewed by commanders, political workers, and staff as serious omissions in organizational work. The demands of the combatant in this area must be the law for all. Unit orders reflecting the results of regular inspections of combat vehicles and armament are also issued upon to mobilize the personnel for careful, responsible maintenance of the equipment and prompt elimination of trouble spots.

The situation in the regiment mentioned above was such that this important subject was raised for only a few days, after which its existence began to be forgotten. The staff, which was obligated to maintain effective supervision over fulfillment of the command decisions, failed to display maximum persistence or adherence principles in this case. All of the responsibility was delegated to the armored and motor transport services, the instructions of which were not always very purposeful.

Colonel V. V. Polyakov, the regimental deputy commander for technical affairs Lieutenant Colonel V. V. Polyakov, far from all depending upon him to satisfy the requirements of the order. He felt that the shortcomings revealed in care of the equipment were absolutely insignificant, that they were elicited by objective causes, and that they could not have an effect on the combat readiness of the unit.

Captain A. Belyakov, the present acting regiment deputy commander for technical affairs, evaluates the situation in approximately the same way.

The regiment's technical maintenance organization was so complex that one could easily start of everything. Such mistakes in care of the vehicles, the author feels, should not elicit alarm. By fall, Belousov thought, the regiment would assure itself a high grade in equipment maintenance.

But such indifference is unsuited to an executive. It has a responsibility to pay attention to practical affairs, mainly on the effectiveness of daily technical work and the condition of the equipment. There is a vehicle maintenance schedule at headquarters, followed by the regiment's administrative officers. Were we to believe it, not a single subunit is ignored by the senior officers, the most experienced comrades. In fact, however, what we find is something different.

At first glance, the results of periodic equipment inspections are reflected on special cards. A deficiency written down on such a card must be eliminated immediately. We find, however, that the tank company commanded by Captain [redacted] possesses cards bearing notes from the company commander, the platoon commanders, and the subunit technician, but they bear no remarks from the staff specialists in response. Thus we find that the schedule of work at headquarters, which is supposedly followed closely, is of no concern to this company. Staff and service officers could also have done much more to check subunits as well. It is very important that personnel maintain a sense of personal responsibility for combat readiness in the course of timely maintenance of the vehicles and armament; it is important that they develop the technical culture so much needed today. After all, the regiment is one of the areas of indoctrination.

It is not outside toward the equipment and through their persistent struggle to make each vehicle and each item of armament would be in outstanding condition today, and not just after additional maintenance prior to a major combat mission, senior comrades have a great mobilizing and educational influence on young specialists. This attitude is clearly lacking here. For example, during one of the motor pool housekeeping days there was not a single [redacted] of attendance at some of the subunits. Things were left to [redacted] on their own. Far from all of the crews knew exactly what they had to do.

One could say that things are going well in this area of the regiment's life in relation to the organization of the socialist competition. Grading the results, as the regiment commanders rely on the overall score given to the subunits for the training period. This score often serves as a cover-up for deficiencies, which indicates indifference. We must consider, however, that competition is effective only when the results of each day and of each hour are graded fairly and openly.

The following question arises: What is the party organization doing to maintain equipment and armament in exemplary fashion are the tasks implied by the new purposeful is party-political work aimed at nurturing the love for equipment in the personnel? The tasks implied by the

regimental order were discussed at party meetings and at meetings of the party bureaus. This obviously had an effect at first. But later things began to deteriorate. The question as to the personal responsibility of communist executives responsible for the condition of the equipment was never raised effectively, once again probably because the revealed shortcomings were thought to be inconsequential, not affecting the quality of combat training.

Attempts by some commanders to justify existence of all of the problems by objective causes were not offered dependable support.

The regiment lacks a clear system for organizing dissemination of technical knowledge. Thought must also be given to the reason that the solemn ceremony of entrusting weapons and equipment to the young complement has lapsed into oblivion.

The regiment's personnel do have the means for attaining the highest indices in equipment maintenance. It contains many well trained, experienced specialists--officers, warrant officers, sergeants, and enlisted men, out of whom it would not be difficult to create a strong technical core. This active core could take the lead in preparing and conducting technical conferences, competitions, and question-and-answer meetings. And it could make a contribution to the work of technical circles.

Armament, combat equipment, and other equipment are to be inspected not less than twice a year, and the inspection results are to be published in a regimental order...". These are lines straight out of Article 66 of the MVD Armed Forces Internal Service Regulations. This article spells out the responsibility of a regiment commander. It tells us how significant the condition of equipment is to the combat readiness of the unit. There is also the matter of setting the requirement for publishing the inspection results in an order. Such an order serves as a guideline for action by the regimental staff, the party organization, and naturally all officials directly responsible for the condition of equipment and armament. It is important for such an order to be effective in its entirety: Revealing the shortcomings, it must similarly spell out the ways that things can be improved.

Unfortunately all of these goals have not been achieved by the order issued by the commander. It is hoped here that the satisfactory grade for combat equipment received in spring could be raised by one point through the next major inspection through a crash campaign. And yet the struggle for high equipment must proceed every day.

#### Battalion Training Criticized

Source: BALKAN WATCH, No. 14 Aug 79 p 1

Source: Lieutenant Colonel V. Bordanovskiy, Red Banner Carpathian Military District -- That order of the company commanded by Captain L. Dzhurikhev

were supposed to begin their gunnery practice in the morning, but they did not leave for the field until after lunch. The company commanded by Captain Yu. Fronin never did conduct its planned technical training drills on this day.

"It was not our fault that we and our neighbor were unable to meet the schedule," Captain Ostromukhov explained. "The regimental staff made the changes in the drill schedule."

Senior Lieutenant S. Men'shikh had something to add as well:

"This pattern is generally typical. I have served here for a long time, but I have never been able to understand why such conflicts arise. We talk a great deal at meetings and conferences about planning discipline and about increasing training effectiveness, but we never see real changes for the better."

Battalion chief of staff Captain N. Cherezov explained the causes for the missed drills in more definite terms--unplanned internal housekeeping details. As a rule the senior chiefs make unexpected demands for personnel for details.

How under such conditions can the personnel complete the training plan? Seeking an answer, I turned to the combat training accounting logs. I found that accounting was nonexistent in the subunits, in the strict sense of the term. Some commanders had stopped keeping the logs back in the winter training period. Grades are not recorded for sergeants and enlisted men for many months in a number of subjects.

How, then, are the training and socialist competition results summarized in the platoons and companies? What is used as the basis for determining the leaders and those who have fallen behind? I could not get a sensible answer. I was also amazed by the fact that senior chiefs give no thought to any of this when inspecting the subunits.

"The battalion has been inspected several times," said Lieutenant Colonel V. Kostyuk. "It was inspected in particular by Major Kostyukin. But he was never instructed to inspect the logs. We, you know, are interested more in the real results than the paperwork."

That would seem to be a prudent approach. But is it not a real fact and a serious shortcoming in training and indoctrination that the company officers have failed to evaluate subordinate training for many long months? The staff's priority task is to evaluate the real level of the subunit's skills thoroughly and carefully. But it is no less important for it to clarify, through deep and meticulous analysis, why the battalion's indices are lower than those pledged, making it difficult for the personnel to improve their knowledge and skills.

Inspecting the subunit's training progress at the end of the winter training period, Major V. Kostyunin collected the statistics needed by the higher staff and left to make his report to his senior chief rather quickly. He did not penetrate substantially into the state of affairs.

Lieutenant Colonel N. Perepelka also visited the battalion in his exalted role of inspector. He found the grounds for concluding that the subunit was not meeting its training plan, but the experienced specialist limited himself to particulars.

Control cannot be deep if it is not combined with providing help locally. Doing individual work with the officers, giving them practical instructions, and participating in political indoctrination measures, senior comrades are able to reveal the strong and weak sides of the subunits much more fully.

This year unfortunately none of the senior chiefs offered instructions to company and platoon commanders in the battalion. Nor did the staffs attempt to generalize any of the experience. Everything was reduced--Lieutenant Colonel Potetynok was right in this case--to simply recording the end result.

Test exercises conducted in the middle of summer showed that the results were to be extremely modest. The scores attained by Captain Ostromukhov's subordinates were lower in the last and second-to-last firing practices than at the end of the winter training period. The company under Captain Fronin's command was far from the goal it adopted for the competition as well.

It is the subunit commanders who are primarily to blame for the serious shortcomings in organization of the training process and the socialist competition. But many of the shortcomings would not have been present, had the senior chiefs and staffs maintained deeper and more effective control.

#### Training Role of Staff Officers

Moscow KRAYNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Aug 79 p 2

(Text) Lieutenant Colonel V. Troitskiy--The training year is coming to an end. We are now faced by the important time of summarizing the results of combat and political training and the progress achieved in satisfaction of socialist pledges. Test exercises conducted in the division's units in August showed that much had been done to satisfy the pledges. Many subunits are now close to the goals they planned for the competition. Credit for this belongs to the formation staff as well.

The role of staffs in competition is well known: They help the subunits and units to write real pledges, and together with them they seek out the internal reserves for raising the quality and effectiveness of training, and

for making sensible use of training time and the training material base--that is, to help create the conditions for achieving the goals. It is the duty of the staff to see that every grade would objectively reflect the true state of affairs. It has an effective means for this--the test exercise. I would like to relate how we use it.

Once the commander of one of the units reported that a number of tactical training topics had been covered well. The grades awarded by the exercise leaders corresponded to the pledges adopted. The regimental staff and the battalion staffs, the unit commander reported, were maintaining the progress of training and the socialist competition under unweakening control.

Several days later the division staff also conducted test exercises in the regiment in accordance with the plan. The inspection showed that the commander's report presented wishes as realities. Not a single company confirmed the grade it received earlier.

After analyzing the inspection results the formation commander set the deadline for correcting the shortcomings. The commander and the staff workers of the unit were subjected to strict party discipline. Soon the regiment commander reported that the omissions in the field skills of the personnel had been eliminated.

Once again the efficient staff found the time to check the accuracy of the information. The officers conducting the test exercises were persuaded that something had in fact been done, and that there were fewer shortcomings in personnel training. But their main conclusion did not agree with the opinion of the regimental commander and staff: There were no grounds for suggesting that the unit was satisfying its pledges successfully.

The regiment commander did not lie when he said that the training process was kept under constant control. His inspectors did in fact do a great deal. But was what they did in the subunits effective? To answer this question, control had to be placed under control, if I may be permitted to use this double expression. Here is what was found.

Battalion chief of staff Captain V. Kruzhkov checked the exercise preparedness of the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Podchernyev. Everything had been done as required by the exercise plan. But the exercise itself proceeded at a low level. An important tactical training subject was worked on in simplified conditions, without minefields and simulated enemy actions. The officers of the division staff had to take steps locally to keep the exercise from becoming a waste of time.

In the platoon commanded by Lieutenant Yu. Radchenko, regimental staff officer Senior Lieutenant A. Ustinov tested the knowledge and habits the personnel had acquired in protection against mass destruction weapons. It was revealed that the staff worker himself did not know which subject the training crews

were to work on, the amount of time allocated to the training subject as a whole, and the standards applicable to it. As far as the pledges adopted by the subunit personnel are concerned, they were of no interest at all to the inspector. It was only owing to intervention by division staff officer Major A. Kurichenko that the test exercise achieved the attributes it required.

It became clear that reports coming from the regiment were extremely approximate not only because the truth was consciously exaggerated here. It was a simple fact that no one knew the real state of affairs. Because of shallow control, the regimental commander and staff could not influence the course of the competition effectively.

The division commander, political section, and staff had to work a great deal to raise the effectiveness of staff control in the unit. There were many changes for the better. A number of subunits managed to correct their mistakes. But this unit is still noticeably behind in the competition on the regiments.

Why have I concentrated my attention on the ones that are behind? Because the inability to effectively delve into the course of training and competition is not such a rare phenomenon. Is it not true that poor grades and sometimes even failures in test exercises are declared to be a complete surprise? We are led to believe that the regiment or the division does not have its own resources for conducting strict and deep inspections, or its own specialists capable of correctly evaluating the achievements.

I recall the following incident in this connection. Major V. Simonov, an inspector from the formation staff, visited the company which I was commanding at that time. The tank driving test exercise was conducted in difficult weather conditions. I was hopeful that the staff officer would take these conditions into account. But no allowance for the weather was given. The company received an unsatisfactory grade. At the end of the lesson Major Simonov himself sat down behind the control levers of the tank and demonstrated that a tank could be driven at high speed in such conditions.

The "unexpected" failing grade opened my eyes to a great deal at that time, when I was a young commander. I was forced to reexamine my ways, and quite seriously. But there was a reward, for in the fall that same Major Simonov shook my hand firmly in congratulations for the excellent training of the driver-mechanics. The years passed, and I have still not forgotten the lesson.

There are many officers like Major Simonov in our division staff. Whenever they report that some subunit was well trained and had fulfilled its pledges successfully, the inspections always confirm their words. Whenever they note shortcomings, they are not just particular or petty ones which could be corrected on the spot. The units and subunits know officers

A. Russkikh, A. Kurichenko, N. Kostina, and N. Chepuru as exacting and principled officers.

We try to see that control would be preventive in nature. It is important to reveal omissions in training and weak points in competition while the possibilities for correcting them still exist. In addition to holding test exercises on particular subjects, the most complex ones, we also hold integrated inspections which provide an integral impression of the work style of a given commander, the quality of the training process, and the effectiveness of the competition.

The division is fighting for the best formation title, and the staff is persistently seeking ways to increase its influence on the competition and fighting to raise its effectiveness.

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PERSONNEL: BASIS FOR OFFICER'S DISMISSAL GIVEN

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel Justice I. Vashkevich: "A Good Name"]

[Text] Lieutenant Technical Service V. Lobanov, a company deputy commander, was dismissed from the the armed forces not so long ago. He was dismissed for rough treatment of a subordinate and application of illegal punishment.

This was an extraordinary case. But why had matters proceeded so far? Could it be that Lobanov's supervisors were unaware of his behavior? They were aware. But even in the face of abundant uncomplimentary performance reports the rude officer was promoted to a higher post.

One of the causes of the incident, an analysis showed, was that adequate significance was not attached in the unit to reinforcing the authority of the military rank, to nurturing respectfulness among servicemen, and to the personal honor and merit of every soldier. So what if the lieutenant insulted someone, they thought, his main concern is with getting the work done! But at the same time the moral characteristics of the personality and the individual's authority and prestige within the collective are important factors not only in relation to the efficiency of each of us but also for strengthening the ties of troop comradeship, for success in the common ends we serve.

There is no need to belabor the fact that the individual himself is the first to create, protect, and strengthen his reputation. He does so through conscientious labor, proper behavior in the collective and off the job, and his honor, adherence to principles, competency, and culture. Our society has created all of the conditions for moral elevation of the personality, for its self-assertion, and for its free and comprehensive development. The USSR Constitution, Soviet laws, and military regulations dependably protect the honor and personal merit of servicemen against all transgressions. However, situations do arise in which the commander, the political agency, the party organization, and the military collective are called upon to stand in the defense of a fellow serviceman, to defend him against undeserved reproach, and all the more so insult and slander.

A rumor that Senior Lieutenant G. had committed an improper act spread quickly over the military post. Unaware of any wrongdoing, the officer naturally felt deeply hurt. He appealed to the subunit commander, asking him to defend him against the slander; this would have been easy to do, since everyone at the small post knew who was responsible for the extremely serious accusation against the officer's family. All the commander needed to do was call in this civilian female and explain to her that slander was criminal, and that if she did have any hard facts, they needed to be presented according to the regulations.

Unfortunately, however, things were done differently at the post. The officer investigating the case took the gossip's side and confirmed the slander without adequate proof. Senior Lieutenant G. was forced to appeal to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, and only the editorial board's intervention softened the blow on the officer's merit. The evidence against him was revealed to be nonsense.

Investigating this incident, I spoke with many comrades. Alas, some of them had sincerely believed that there had been no deviations from the norms of our life, and all the more so from the requirements of the law. One officer even asked me whether or not it was true that I had "really traveled all the way to post only to deal with this inconsequential incident." It came to my mind that we speak rather too rarely--at conferences, during party and Komsomol meetings, and in individual discussions with people--about the personal merit of the citizen soldier.

The necessity of such work is obvious. It is precisely due to the failure to understand the state and social significance of a respectful attitude toward the personality that some individuals are emboldened to resolve an issue which is so complex that it sometimes requires qualified investigation by lawyers. It was for this reason that neither the commanders, nor the Komsomol organization, nor the officer society were able to deal adequately with the roughness displayed by Lieutenant Technical Service V. Lobanov.

Thus we find that a chief's remarks to a subordinate are sometimes insulting, and criticism at meetings is degraded to public shaming of an individual. Sometimes, furthermore, subordinates are subjected to disrespectful language and even bad language. And yet according to the regulations we must all be respectful, and we must display restraint. Every chief is obligated to combine high exactingness, adherence to principles, and intolerability of shortcomings with trust and respect of people.

Songs have been written about Soviet military comradeship. Our ideas about commanders and political workers are tied in with fatherly concern for people, to include their morale. We must constantly multiply these glorious traditions in the interests of unifying the military collectives and strengthening military discipline.

## POLITICAL TRAINING IN THE MOSCOW MILITARY DISTRICT DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by Colonel General K. Grushevoy, Military Council Member, Chief, Political Directorate, Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "In the Main Sector"]

[Text] Perhaps there is not a single communist who has not reread the CPSU Central Committee decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination" several times. Satisfying today's requirements concerning the theory and practice of communist indoctrination to the highest degree, this decree is permeated with a concern for growth of the spiritual maturity of the Soviet people, and it concentrates our efforts on the key tasks concerned with formation of the new man. And here is what is typical: Whether the discussion turns to the work of party organizations or executives or propagandists, the need for approaching indoctrination creatively, innovatively is invariably emphasized.

Statement of the problem in this way is a compelling will of the times. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev spoke quite thoroughly and accurately about this: "...we have entered a stage of development which no longer permits us to work in the old ways, requiring new methods and new concepts. Former experience is of little help here, and acquisition of new experience requires persistent effort and a constant search."

The ability to keep in step with the times, to take the point in the search for effective methods of influencing people, in developing new ways to raise the effectiveness of political work in the soldier masses--these traits must necessarily be inherent to the party-political worker of our days; such a style must be inherent to political workers at all levels.

I feel the time has come to pose the following question: What major steps have been taken in our party collectives to complete the tasks posed by the CPSU Central Committee, what real changes are occurring in the way ideological indoctrination is organized, and what is the place of the political organ in this work? Understandably, practice itself will provide the best answer as to whether or not the workers have accepted the greater

requirements on the content, forms, and methods of indoctrination, and whether they are increasing their assistance to commanders trying to solve the problems of combat and political training, or simply relaxing with former achievements, traveling well-trodden roads.

It was not so long ago that I inspected the activities of the political section of the Guards Motorized Rifle Taman' Red Banner Order of Suvorov Division imeni M. I. Kalinin from this point of view. An atmosphere of inspired work and clear organization reigns in the political section, and the morale of the people is high. What, for example, distinguished political section chief Guards Lieutenant Colonel O. Zolotarev, his deputy Guards Major A. Bogovik, and other officers? Mainly their desire to attain that lofty goal of improving ideological and political indoctrination. These comrades are developing a work style which is more efficient and creative than before.

Here are just a few examples. After the Central Committee decree was published the political section got together with a number of military academies and invited experienced teachers to conduct qualified discussions with the political workers, party secretaries, and active ideologists of the formation on the ways for improving personnel indoctrination in the spirit of the party requirements. Close ties with military scholars evolved. Cooperation with them is helping the political organ to master the most effective methods of ideological influence upon the soldiers and of studying public opinion, and it is arming it with a system of grounded recommendations pertaining to an integrated approach to indoctrination in the units and subunits, unification of the military collectives, activation of socialist competition, and so on.

One particular result of such fruitful contacts was a manual prepared by the political section on organizing political indoctrination in the company. This manual was based on concrete material--a detailed analysis of experience accumulated in the best subunit, commanded by Guards Lieutenant S. Ovcharenko. By now most of the other companies have noticeably improved their organization of political indoctrination, in many ways, of course, under the influence of this example and, if we look more deeply, owing to the approach which the political section took in analyzing and publicizing the best experience.

There is no need to belabor how important it is for every creative step to be noticed and supported, for every such step to be brought to the attention of all political organs. Thus when we held a meeting of the political section chiefs of the formations and military training institutions, the experience of political workers in the Taman' Division and the activities of a number of other political organs served as a unique "visual aid" for the meeting's participants.

I must unfortunately also talk about manifestations of inertia and cases of a formal approach to satisfying the requirements of the decree. A district

commanding force inspired the of the units. It conducted an integrated inspection of the entire organization of training and indoctrination. Let me note that integrated analysis permits us to dig the deepest into the affairs of the particular collective, and we are making increasingly broader use of this method. The CPSU Central Committee decree contains the following items: "Evaluating the work of executives and administrators, consider not only the indicators of production plan fulfillment but also the discipline level, the moral-political climate in the collective, and the working and living conditions." The combat training initiatives of this kind were universally unsatisfactory. But at what price were they being attained? At the price of crash campaigns, of overloading the people, of "tearing the skins," and so on, it turned out. The individual, together with his personal qualities and needs, was moved into the background. Even so a wartime relationship to people were discarded, ones which received confirmation neither from commanders nor from party organizations. And yet these problems had been talked about at meetings many times, and joint solutions were made.

Another question arose itself: what was the political section doing? We found that it was not penetrating deeply into the life of the unit, placing the activities of political workers and party organizations from an armchair. The political section failed to note how superficial were the forms of political indoctrination in the collectives themselves. The sections would spew out the same sort of plans. On demand, plans were hardly copied from books of previous years, and even then were only half-filled.

Therefore the above basic steps were taken against mistakes was related to responsibility for such important responsibilities. But I think there is a lesson here for all of us: we must display exactness and an irreducibility of ourselves, and we must measure the organizational and educational activities of command, indoctrination and party organizations in accordance of that as highest criteria.

One more conclusion: after cases of mass desertion, usually they are blamed on the political officers, and the party to change the state of affairs. For the command, however, it is always possible, but sometimes it is hard to find the guilty. Therefore, "every day," we must look at ourselves and reflect. The main source of desertion is the poor organization and the morale of the unit.

Another long ago, one of the highest USSR leaders, Khrushchev, participated in a meeting of the anti-war front-line units, and for personal officials. He said: "We officers have this sole belief that the personnel would be able to withstand the Hitlerites' provocations and heroic distinguishes themselves in the struggle with the Hitlerites." After the meeting AD and the front-line commandants were asked to make a report on their units. It turned out that there were many desertions. He advised that such organizations, that of bad morale, should be disbanded, and the people of the military on the proposed

and qualifications of speakers, and that it would not fit into the schedule according to which the soldiers had to live. In general, the effort was commendable only in theory.

Channeling the political organs at constructive solution of the problems posed by the Central Committee and encouraging them to initiate a creative search for more-effective forms and methods of indoctrination, the district's military council and political directorate are taking the necessary steps to orient them correctly, to suggest the main paths of their search, and to acquaint them with what has already been achieved. Officers of the political directorate were given the assignment of determining, within their own sectors, where and what troop training and indoctrination problems were being solved best of all with a consideration for the stiffer requirements.

There are many interesting things to learn from what is actually going on in the troops. I have already mentioned the Taman' Division. Specific evening discussions on the topic "The Army--A Great School" being conducted in the Nth Garrison are instructive. The very first evening discussions of this series, which dealt with the topics "The School of Labor," "The School of Bravery," and "The School of Moral Purity" produced an extremely positive result. Possibilities for improving political information for the personnel were discovered by the Moscow Higher Combined Arms Command School imeni Verkhovnyi Sovet RSFSR. Both of these practices were studied by the district's political directorate. Recommendations on introducing the experience of the evening discussions and the ways for expanding the volume of the information effort were transmitted to the formations and schools.

The party committee and bureau secretaries of the district's units were recently invited to visit the Guards Tank Kantemir Order of Lenin Red Banner Division to get acquainted locally with the way one of the new problems in the activities of commanders, political workers, and party organizations was being solved. A method of differentiated instruction of soldiers in different periods of their service had been introduced. Undoubtedly, party-political work also had to be reorganized in an appropriate fashion. How would it best be organized under such conditions? What reserves could be revealed, and to what shortcomings should attention be turned? A meticulous analysis was performed in order to find the answers to these questions. All categories of command, political, and organizational-technical personnel were interviewed according to a special procedure. Then the materials were summarized and utilized as a good basis for giving recommendations for improving personnel training and indoctrination.

This experience convinces us more and more that the analytical approach to studying the problems concerning ideological activities in the troops may be raised to a qualitatively new level. One of the tasks formulated in the Okt' Central Committee decree--"Devote special attention to deep and thorough study of public opinion and sociopolitical analysis"--makes it

program that we train people specializing in sociological work. There are of course things that still require some thought here. Sociological laboratories or groups could be placed within the composition of instructor training councils, which would significantly raise the effectiveness of their work.

The first results of implementing the CPSU Central Committee decree in the units, formations, and schools of the district show that many interesting and instructive things are being done. And it is precisely where the political activists act as true organizers, maintain a creative approach to solving the problems posed, and display high purposefulness that the most significant changes for the better are seen.

## HOUSING AND FACILITIES IN FAR EAST MILITARY DISTRICT DESCRIBED

MOSCOW KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by Engineer-Colonel Ye. Stepanov, Billeting Directorate, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Our Common Concern"]

[Text] Visiting the military posts, one sees especially graphically how astounding the changes for the better have been in the availability of housing and personal services to military servicemen and their families. Well equipped multistory residential buildings, modern barracks, officers palaces, clubs, libraries, and enlisted tea rooms are typical of every garrison, even the most remote. Standard motor pools for combat equipment, new school buildings, medical centers, and trading enterprises are witnesses to the labor of military builders and the concern shown by the workers of the billeting service for providing all public services and amenities to the military posts.

We in the Far East Military District devote constant attention to living and personal conditions, to maintenance of the buildings and structures, and to capital construction. All reserves are committed to solution of these problems. In order that the builders would not be distracted from their principal tasks, the military units have been given the job of erecting some of the simple facilities (equipment and property store-houses, checkpoints, enclosures).

The plan for construction through the efforts of the military units has been progressing successfully over the course of several years. This is the result of good business ties among all interested services. It has become a firm rule for us that before laying the first foundation stone, specialists of the billeting service must get together with administrators in the units to determine how much of the building materials, reinforced concrete structures, and articles the local enterprises could supply. Specialists of our service tie in the plans with the local conditions. We constantly monitor compliance with construction norms and rules, and we hold safety briefings. Unit commanders organize procurement of bricks, reinforced concrete, and other materials, and they create squads responsible for all of the main jobs. The leaders of the working squads

(warrant officers as a rule) offer construction training before the work begins.

Structures are erected through local resources under the supervision of specialists from the district's billeting directorate. The experience of the best construction squads is generalized and disseminated to other units. Owing to this local construction method many of the units have significantly improved their training material base, renovated their combat equipment pools, and built new clubs, baths, laundries, and mess halls. Officers K. Khmel'nitskiy, N. Tula, N. Tosunov, A. Chernov, and D. Prokopenko managed to organize construction through their own efforts especially efficiently.

It should be emphasized that the volume of repair and construction performed by our service is growing with every year. Since 1978, all fixtures of the posts are repaired only through the efforts of organizations of the district's billeting directorate.

Clear distribution of responsibilities has made it possible to make better use of billeting unit repair specialists, and to upgrade the quality and reduce the time of repairs. Owing to utilization of reserves, last year the organizations overhauled several hundred structures, to include many residential, residential buildings, clubs, and mess halls. Moreover an integrated effort was undertaken to equip 11 military posts. The construction and repair organization collectives led by Soviet Army Major A. Sivtsev, V. Nepiyushchiy, M. Shishlo, and I. Voloshin are examples of plan fulfillment and socialist pledge satisfaction. The labor productivity of the repairmen is growing constantly. In the last 4 years it has increased by more than 12 percent.

Tradition shows that systematic planned preventive inspections, prompt repair of buildings and equipment and efficient correction of problems in the sanitary network, precise careful operation of buildings and structures. It is precisely in preventive maintenance that we find unutilized possibilities and the way to economize on state assets.

As we know the summer will be still warm and bright and it seems early yet to begin winter work. I want to dwell on some problems of winter operation of the buildings and structures. The winter period is extremely cold, requires our vigil. We must prepare for it well ahead of time. Long before the cold spells set in, we make the building structures and equipment necessary fully ready. In the winter we inspect and repair, as necessary, all boiler rooms, water pumping stations, treatment facilities, and utility networks. The district's billeting directorate makes sure that the necessary equipment and materials are delivered in accordance with the district's written plans. We create integrated repair and construction teams for the most complex and important parts of repairing heating, air circulation and systems, and we outfit them with all of the required Army repair and staff them with qualified specialists.

There is truth in the folk saying that one must prepare one's sled in summer. Workers of the billeting units headed by engineer-lieutenant colonels P. Savel'yev and L. Kashechkin are already actively preparing to meet the cold season fully armed, sparing no effort or energy. The housing and the communal equipment is always maintained in operable condition in the troop units in which billeting unit workers V. Andriyevskiy, V. Zyat'kov, and V. Bochenin are responsible for housing operation.

The entire complex of measures aimed at mobilizing unutilized reserves and the creative effort of the service's specialists have made it possible for us to win the revolving Red Banner of the USSR Ministry of Defense in the socialist competition among the military district billeting directorates.

But there are still many shortcomings in the work of the billeting service. This naturally elicits valid complaints and reproaches. There are serious shortcomings in the garrisons in which officers Yu. Kudryayev, I. Fartukh, and B. Marchenko are the billeting unit chiefs. We often encounter cases of a careless attitude toward the storage and use of furniture and fuel, and toward the maintenance of buildings and military posts.

Eliminating the existing shortcomings, we will do everything necessary to support fruitful training and life of soldiers in the Far East.

11004  
CSO: 1801

## POLITICAL TRAINING SHORTCOMINGS IN MILITARY COMMISSARIATS NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Aug 79 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Vertlib, Red Banner North Caucasus Military District: "A Training Day in the Military Commissariat"]

[Excerpts] The work of a military commissariat officer is not easy. He must work with preconscript youth, and with the war veterans. He must also participate actively in agitation and propaganda. He has to know his work very well, and he must possess a broad political outlook and moral merits, if he is to competently resolve all of the arising issues; he must display party tactfulness and attentiveness toward people. As we know, Marxist-Leninist education plays a priority role in formation of these qualities. The political organs and party organizations of the military commissariats are called upon to devote constant attention to ideological indoctrination of commissariat officers.

Recently a group of officers from our district's political directorate visted a number of military commissariats in Rostovskaya Oblast. We traveled there with a sense of sharpened interest. The fact was that these military commissariats had created so-called integrated Marxist-Leninist training groups consisting of officers from several military commissariats.

There were many reasons for this reorganization. First of all the formerly existing groups under each military commissariat were small as a rule. This hindered organization of the lessons and reduced their effectiveness. If just one or two of the students were to take their routine leave, seminars could not be held.

The following circumstance was also considered. Organization of integrated groups made it possible to attract the best-trained officers, those with solid theoretical knowledge and a considerable amount of life experience, to leadership positions. With training organized in this new way, workers

of the oblast military commissariat's political section could exercise more-objective control over the course of Marxist-Leninist training and effectively influence its quality.

Our purpose for the trip was to see once again how the adopted method was being implemented, and what practical results it was producing.

Speaking directly, I will have to say that the impressions were contradictory.

Unfortunately the party organizations are not showing due concern for the theoretical training of communists. Consider this in light of the fact that they are precisely the ones who must serve as the kingpins of day-to-day ideological indoctrination. It seems to me that it would not be excessive to recall, to some military commissariat party secretaries, the requirement stated in the CPSU Central Committee decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination." We visited nine commissariat party collectives. An analysis of their affairs showed that some of them failed to display adequate attention to this important area of party work. As an example party bureau secretary Captain I. Kas'yanov of the Shakhtinsk City Military Commissariat was unaware of how well the communists were doing in the Marxist-Leninist training system, even though the party organization's documents stated that this issue was being discussed at party bureau meetings and that Captain I. Kas'yanov had given a report on it.

The possibility is not excluded that this attitude toward the theoretical training of party organization officers is to a certain extent a product of the attitude displayed by the political section of the oblast military commissariat in which Colonel A. Minenko serves as chief. This political organ is still not delving sufficiently into the status of officer Marxist-Leninist training, it evaluates its quality mainly on the basis of test results, and it is not well aware of the local state of affairs, even though the possibilities for obtaining such information are considerable. Officers of the oblast military commissariat visited the rayon commissariats about 20 times just recently. But none of the officers took the initiative to ask how officer theoretical training was going. The political section never did order them to do so. The thought never crossed its mind. The political section felt its main responsibility to be that of simply dropping the necessary directives down to the local organs from above. For practical purposes it even stopped holding instructor training lessons for Marxist-Leninist training group leaders.

When training day rolls around in the military commissariat, it is very important for every training hour to be used with maximum benefit. The people must be sufficiently enriched with new knowledge, and they must be helped to carry out their tasks even more successfully.

11004  
CSO: 1801

## PERSONNEL: EFFECTIVE USE OF ENGINEER OFFICERS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 79 p 2

[Articles by Engineer-Colonel Yu. Kurganov, Engineer-Colonel F. Krasovskiy, and Lieutenant Colonel A. Kirichenko: "Consider the Requirements of the Times and Practice"]

[Text] The article "A Feeling for the New, and the Force of Inertia" by Engineer-Colonel E. Lukanskiy was published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 10 July. It raised the issue of improving the style of work of military engineers with a consideration for today's requirements. The article elicited reader interest. Responses to the article were submitted by Doctor of Technical Sciences, Engineer-Captain 1st Rank S. Ksenz, Candidate of Technical Sciences Engineer-Colonel A. Kasimenko, Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel M. Kashafutdinov, Captain 3d Rank A. Fateyev, engineer-majors A. Gorbovitskiy, V. Kononykhin, P. Oreshin, and Ye. Prolov, and other readers. Today we publish some of these responses.

### Scientific Organization of Labor Against the Forces of Inertia, by Engineer-Colonel Yu. Kurganov

The issues raised in the article by Engineer-Colonel E. Lukanskiy are extremely pressing. Scientific-technical progress has elicited qualitative changes in the nature and content of our labor, and it has imposed higher requirements on the military engineer as a specialist, organizer, and indoctrinator of subordinates.

As an example truly scientific organization of labor is a typical trait of the work of officers A. Klimkovich, N. Sakov, and A. Bobyr. They devote a great part of their time to work right within the subunit, right where the main problems of combat readiness are solved. Concurrently, at strictly defined times, known to all subordinates, they are present at unit headquarters, where they efficiently solve arising problems and provide effective assistance to engineers from the subunits.

Officers Klimkovich, Sakov, and Bobyr are also doing a great deal to improve business administration. A number of measures were implemented with this purpose in the armament service headed by Officer A. Klimkovich. Standard forms were drawn up and printed for many of the regular reports. Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Lyubarets developed a new repair log to replace the existing ones, and its format was approved by the higher staff. The volume of information entered in this log was reduced.

Another important direction was increasing the occupational proficiency of engineers. Analysis of the standard-setting documents, introduction of advanced skills, and systematic inspection of staff training upgraded the quality and reduced the time of reports, messages, and so on.

The fight for time, for its most sensible expenditure is an important task. I think it would be suitable to thoroughly analyze the way military engineers use their time, and to provide concrete recommendations on scientific organization of their labor.

Socialist competition is an effective means for raising the political activity and occupational proficiency of military engineers; socialist competition should be organized efficiently between the armament services of the units and formations. Unfortunately the results of the work of these services are often evaluated subjectively. When such an approach is taken, it is unclear why one service is in first place and another is in last place. To avoid such shortcomings, Officer V. Bondarenko developed special criteria. Their introduction made it possible to objectively evaluate both the work of individual specialists and the unit's armament service as a whole. Visuality and objectivity of the grades raised competitiveness and increased the activity and creativity of the service officers.

Scientific organization of labor and highly effective competition aimed at upgrading professional proficiency are prerequisites for improving the organizational and educational work of military engineers.

#### Slow at Introducing the New, by Engineer-Colonel F. Krasovskiy

A number of signal units recently discussed the problem of how some categories of servicemen were using their work time. Preliminary estimates show that military engineers spend up to 40 percent of their work time on documents. This of course is impermissible. After all, what is happening here is that a specialist who must organize equipment operation and personnel indoctrination is forced to work as a clerk, a paper shuffler.

What must we do to see that the least possible time and effort is spent on such work, which is in principle necessary? The main thing in my opinion is to introduce modern mechanized and automated resources into business administration more persistently.

At the beginning of the 1970's all forms of accounting, information, and other documents pertaining to operation of communication resources were reviewed with an eye on computer data processing. The possibilities for such processing are increasing with every year. However, the practice of collecting and generalizing information with the help of technical resources is still being introduced too slowly. Finally, as the article validly notes, we must surmount difficulties of a purely psychological nature associated with mistrust of computer technology.

As far as the style and methods of the work of a military engineer are concerned, they depend in many ways on his knowledge of the equipment and the experience he has accumulated in its operation. And, of course, on how, where, and what the engineer is taught, and what is required of him by his supervisors.

#### How the "Desk Job" is Born, by Lieutenant Colonel A. Kirichenko

An engineer's work does not transform into a desk job spontaneously. Units receive numerous documents and requests from higher staffs and directorates. Replies to them must be prompt. And so the engineer must spend many long hours at his desk.

Therefore I am in full agreement with the opinion of the article author that we must review and improve the business administration and directive documents now. We are presently using materiel accounting regulations written more than 20 years ago. The methods for filling out and processing accounting documents foreseen by these regulations take a lot of time away from many specialists. Meanwhile, other services have long been using simpler, more convenient forms of documents. But we are not allowed to use them. "They are contrary to the regulations," we are told. It seems that we should think about bringing the regulations in line with the requirements of the times, with progressive practice.

11004  
CSO: 1801

## INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER OF SOVIET ARMED FORCES STRESSED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Oct 79 p 2

[Interview with Col Gen K. S. Grushevoy, member of the Military Council of the Moscow Military District; date and place not given]

[Excerpts) Col Gen K. S. Grushevoy -- a talented engineer metallurgist and party worker became a military man and a member of a front's military council during the years of the Great Patriotic War.

Today, a member of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District's military Council, K. S. Grushevoy is devoting a lot of attention to the indoctrination of army youth. Our correspondent met with him.

[Question] Konstantin Stepanovich, new replacements are arriving in the army on order of the USSR minister of defense. Our people rightfully call their armed forces a school of life. In your opinion, from what important directions is the indoctrination of army youth taking shape in this school?

[Answer] If you do not object, I will begin with a letter. Such letters frequently come to the military district's units and to me as a member of the military council. Machine operators, builders, engineers, cattle breeders, teachers, and agronomists write them -- in a word, people of very different nationalities and professions who today are engaged in peaceful work, but yesterday were soldiers. And do you know what excites us-- people who have devoted their lives to the armed forces and to the indoctrination of Soviet fighting men -- in these letters? It is not only the warm words addressed to us. They, of course are pleasant. It is something else in the letters that is especially dear to us: The people's clear understanding of their vital ties with the army.

The process of forming a soldier, of instilling in him those qualities which are needed by a modern fighting man, is a complicated one. I would say that it is important here to consider several items. A modern army needs the knowledge and experience which a young person acquires before entering military service. Today, youth is noted for its high level of education, it is well informed, and it has a common outlook. I will cite an example of this.

Almost 80 percent of the personnel in the units and subunits of the Moscow Military District have a higher and secondary education. Armed with a high quality knowledge of mathematics, physics and other--as they say -- "civilian" subjects, these young people are mastering modern combat equipment more quickly. Nevertheless, this knowledge, good as it is, is only the basis for acquiring the other knowledge needed by a fighting man.

Sometimes the question arises: "But aren't there problems connected with the fact that young soldiers today are people with a high education and, consequently, that the level of those who are their teachers must be higher in all parameters?" I will say right out: There are no problems like this. A modern officer has come from the same secondary school as his subordinates and then received a higher military education, and frequently an academic one. On the contrary, it has become much easier for him to conduct classes because mutual understanding, that feedback which is very important in the training process and in the practices of mastering combat equipment and employing it intelligently during combat, springs up.

There is another side. In a soldier's mutual help and mutual aid, there is such an element as excellent knowledge which undoubtedly helps to accelerate the formation of an entire subunit into an efficient combat entity full of initiative. However, this does not at all mean that the work of commanders and political workers has been made easier by half. On the contrary, their organizational and instructional methods work, which naturally requires a deeper study of the problems and questions arising both in the life of the army collective and in the entire political indoctrinal work complex, has been increased. However, these are problems of qualitative growth and they make us happy.

[Question] Konstantin Stepanovich, we know that you are writing a sequel to your book "Togda, v sorok pervom..." [Then, in Forty-One...] which was received by readers with great warmth. Probably, the new book will have quite a few episodes, demonstrating the heroism of young fighting men during the years of the Great Patriotic War?

[Answer] Several chapters of my new book "Do Polnoy Pobedy" [To Complete Victory] have already been published in the magazine RADUGA. Quite a few pages in it will be devoted to the heroic exploits of Soviet fighting men, including those who are the same age as today's soldiers. Here is one of them. A "KV" tank, whose crew was commanded by Lieutenant S. Konovalov, a Komsomol member, was damaged during a fierce battle. The machine was towed to the rear and the crew among whom were a Ukrainian and Uzbek began repairs. At that time, fascist tanks broke through our defenses and the point of the tank wedge came right at the motionless tank.

[Question] Enormous attention is being devoted in the Soviet armed forces to international indoctrination. Evidently, Konstantin Stepanovich, you remember quite a few examples which reflect the high international spirit of Soviet fighting men.

[Answer] I cite examples from the life of two large units in the Moscow Military District -- the Tamanskaya and Kantemirovskaya divisions. However, what I say pertains to all our armed forces.

In revealing the sources of the high political, moral and combat qualities of Soviet fighting men, comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, said at the 25th party congress: "Our army has been instilled with a spirit of deep devotion to the socialist motherland, to the ideas of peace and internationalism, and to the ideas of friendship between peoples."

Fighting men of 68 nationalities are performing service in the units and subunits of the Moscow Military District. I will cite an example which demonstrates the friendship and brotherhood which unites them in army collectives.

The military attaches of a number of countries participated in a tactical exercise which took place in the Kantemirovskaya Division. After the "battle", they expressed a desire to talk with the fighting men who had distinguished themselves. This opportunity was offered to them. Here, the guests found out that representatives of 18 different nationalities and peoples of our country served in one company.

"Do you understand each other well?"

In asking this question, the representatives of the armies of the capitalist states did not have in mind only purely language differences. It astonished them that young people of different nationalities had become strong friends, had become united, and were carrying out very well the tasks assigned to the combat entity. In its turn, the guests' question somewhat perplexed our fighting men.

Sergeant A. Vil'brantas, a tank commander asked: "Translate for them, please, that our country does not make any distinctions between brother nationalities. I am a Lithuanian, the mechanic driver is a Ukrainian, the gun layer is a Russian, and the loader is a Kazakh. However, we are all a single combat family."

When talking about international indoctrination in units, we have in mind not only the friendship of our country's peoples but also the constant and dynamic strengthening of the fraternal relations and ties of the Soviet people with the peoples of the socialist countries. A delegation of military journalists from the GDR recently was the guest of the fighting men in the Guards Motorized Rifle Shavlinskiy Order of Lenin Red Banner Regiment.

In the unit's museum, they left the entry: "... We value the friendship with the great Soviet Union and consider the fact that the officers

and soldiers. Both armies are saturated with a spirit of proletarian internationalism and that they are strengthening the military collaboration of our armies, to be the great accomplishment of our parties."

It is well written.

I have dwelt only on a few items in that multifaceted work which is being performed in units with army young people. We want the memory of each young fighting man's heart to carefully preserve the legacy of their grandfather and fathers, whose courage and utter devotion to their beautiful land and to their socialist homeland blazed and utterly destroyed the ramparts of fascist militarism during the Great Patriotic War, -- to carefully preserve the dearest thing on earth -- the peace and rest of their native people and motherland and the peace and rest of the peoples of the socialist countries. The great a price has been paid for them. They are worthy of this legacy--today's lads in grey overcoats.

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## HELICOPTER DEVELOPMENT IN SOVIET UNION DESCRIBED

Moscow TASS in Russian 1 Dec 79 p 4

[Interview with A. K. Kotikov; date and place not given]

[Text] Seventy years have passed since the birth of Mikhail Leont'yevich Mil', creator of Soviet MI-type helicopters, general aviation designer, and Hero of Socialist Labor. In connection with this, Yu. Dzhabarov, a TASS correspondent, met with one of M. Mil's comrade's in arms and Lenin prize laureate, A. K. Kotikov; and asked him to talk about this outstanding figure in Soviet aviation technology.

[Question] Aleksandr Konstantinovich, the design bureau which M. Mil' headed was created in December 1947. However, attempts to develop rotary-wing flying equipment had been made in our country before this time. What preceded the work of M. Mil'?

[Answer] The first flight in a helicopter in the Soviet Union was made in September 1930. In 1932, the world altitude record -- 605 meters--for a helicopter was established by A. Cheremukhin, a designer and pilot. The equipment was built in TSAGI [Central Aerohydrodynamics Institute imeni N. E. Zhukovskiy]. Here is what academician B. Yur'yev wrote in connection with this: "The first flights, which took place in 1930, had shown that we were on the right path. The machine confidently tore itself away from the earth, easily rose to an altitude of several hundred meters, and freely performed a figure eight and other complicated patterns in the air. In order to evaluate this success, it is necessary to remember that at this time helicopters had still not been flown abroad, they were only jumping into the air for a short time." Other rotary-wing designs were also being developed in TSAGI in the special design section under the direction of Bratukhin, A. Izakson, N. Kamov, V. Kuznetsov, V. Lapisov, N. Skrashinskii, and A. Cheremukhin. However, the war prevented us from going to mass serial production of these machines.

[Question] What did N. Mil' begin his work with?

As you can see, my opinion is that, even so when founded the MI-1, Mil' and Matvey — a leading two Soviet Russ, as his closest and most senior colleague here (he was in 101,er's section). Mikhail Matveyev was an honest fellow and was in TUSAU and had become a member of the cultural committee. He was involved in the organization of the military, cultural, political, and social activities. His position was, perhaps, the leading specialist in the cultural, cultural, cultural, and relations with the TUSAU leaders, and he had the most influence over them.

Question: The construction of the first MI-1 serial helicopter in all history began in 1950. Here, it is, of course, perhaps, to cite the opinion of the English, American, German and now in the MI-1, the American UH-1 and the Russian MI-1 helicopter. The fact that the MI-1 had greater power than the Chinook — was expected. Besides the absence of any electronic equipment, MI-1 helicopter is suitable for its relatively low power density, the reliability of the transmission is not heard and is considered to be high. What is the engine time of roar. In its category, the MI-1 helicopter does not yield to the flight characteristics to a single Western machine. How was MI-1's first helicopter created?

Answer: Preparation to the construction of this machine was required directly by Mil'. At the time, we worked under conditions of a fierce competition: There were racing helicopters in America and in Europe, and at the same time A. Yankov, I. Bratishin and N. Kamysh were engaged in creating them in Germany. Naturally, it was necessary for Mil' to create his own machine in order to strengthen the creative position of the young and still unknown Soviet Bureau. It is necessary to say that the MI-1 flew successfully. However, a tragedy occurred during one of its flights. The helicopter fell (the tail boom failed) and the pilot, Matvey Matveyev, perished. At the time part beams were made with welds and it turned out they did not stand up to the enormous helicopter loads since welding had not been perfected. At the time, I suggested making these beams from big bars. Mil' immediately adopted this idea and the MI-1 never flew more with the casting.

There were also apprehension and some of the drivers in Mil's design bureau. The fact is, the project was their helicopter required — in contrast to an American Chinook — to have a two and variable drive with three main wheels, which was not very familiar at the time. Mil' finally decided to go forward with it and then, from all directions. However, I say that you — respected the specialists. He possessed some innate intuition — I think, a good one people, and probably trusted only himself.

Question: To whom do you ascribe the failure of Mil's character, and I suspect the reason for the creation of the MI-1 when over the leading specialists in our country — probably did not want to trust Mil's intuition.

[Answer] At the beginning of the fifties, Mil' was called to the party's Central Committee and told that a helicopter capable of carrying 7-8 people was needed. Later we found out what caused the need for this machine. During the war in Korea, a large American unit -- several thousand people -- had been surrounded in the mountains. The Americans had literally in one night extracted all of them from the encirclement using helicopters.

In August 1951, Mil' began to design such a helicopter, and in May of the following year ground tests of this machine began. Here, the unforeseen occurred: The rotor blades began to suddenly wag and wiggle like snakes. Mil' said at the time: It is a flutter. Imagine, none of the aviation specialists checked it. There cannot be fluttering in a helicopter's blades -- all theories assert this. However, Mil' proved that it was a flutter and devised a way to change the design of the blades. In a month, the helicopter -- it was called the MI-4 -- was ready to be tested.

[Question] After the MI-4, there was the MI-6, the first helicopter in the world with gas turbine engines; then, the MI-8, MI - 10, MI - 10K and finally, the V-12 -- the largest helicopter in the world -- in which V. Koloshenko, an honored USSR test pilot and Hero of the Soviet Union, established the world record for load carrying capacity -- 40 tons. These are landmarks in Mil's struggles and victories. Now, his helicopters hold 30 world records. The MI-6 was the first rotary-winged machine in the world to exceed 300 kilometers per hour. This had been considered unachievable for helicopters. In 1965, the French magazine AVIATION wrote: "In the field of helicopter construction, engineer Mil' was able to earn the title branch of first place." Engineer Mil', I have been told, remained until the end of his days a person nervous about his health who did not conceal his foibles....

[Answer] That is so. For example, he did not allow flights to take place on Mondays. He did not like the number 13. When flights were taking place at the airfield, he always gave someone his money. Pilots have this superstition -- there should be no money in one's pocket during a flight.

[Question] Nevertheless in spite of these foibles, Mikhail Leont'yevich was a very steadfast individual who held on to his position. He, for example, insisted on organizing the first exhibition of M. Voloshin's water-color works.

[Answer] Yes, if Mil' saw the righteousness of his cause, no one could help him from proving this righteousness. Mil' saw Akveril' Maksimilian Voloshin in Koktebel'. Mikhail Leont'yevich, himself painted well and knew how to evaluate M. Voloshin's talent. This is what V. Kemenev, the vice president of the USSR Academy of Arts, wrote to him after this exhibition: "It is only thanks to your love for M. Voloshin's art and to your energy that the exhibition of his water-colors was arranged, ending the silence around the name of this outstanding artist...."

Mikhail Leont'yevich maintained the leading role of our country in helicopter construction. He also laid the foundation for the future here. I still have not seen other flying equipment which could replace helicopters in the visible future in performing the tasks for which they were intended.

ARMED BATTALION TRAINING AND THEIR DESCRIPTION

Moscow TRAVEL to Berlin, 4 Dec 79; 6

Article by Lt Col L. Kozhikov: "A Vertical Development"

"Over" the red-starred T-62's stood on the concrete. The commander of the assault battalion, Guards Captain Levild Arshinov, stood in front of the formation of paratroopers.

Today, the battalion was faced with jumping deep in the "enemy's" rear. The airmen's actions would ensure the success of the ground forces.

The battalion commander critically inspected each airmen: How the soldiers and sergeants operate in their assignment and the mission of the unit; how during the combat operations, their readiness for any surprise during the battle, their equipment.... There are no finer details in an assault battalion.

Capt L. Arshinov is the son of a front-line soldier. The father, Grigory Vasil'evich, began the war in '41 and finished it in France. Grigory Vasil'evich's brothers did not live until the happy Day of Victory: Levild died at Stalingrad, and Petr lost his life in the Little Barn. Even as a child, Levild had desired to become an officer. After the Sevastopol, he graduated the Transcaucasian Higher Airborne Command School (now the Lenkoran' Komend) with honors. His years as a lieutenant began successfully. He became the platoon leader of the ranks of excellent ones-- it became the best platoon in the regiment; then, his company became the best one in the Army unit.... He was promoted to senior lieutenant ahead of time and took quite recently took command of the battalion. The "secret" of this assault's success is simple: Levild in his command practices sticks to the rules. And relevant to the your subordinates be, you, yourself must be.

Guards Airborne Major says: "The commander has taught us to despise cowardice. In the end, we love our commanders-- because they share the fine and honor of the airborne profession with us. The commander's parachute is no different from the parachute of an ordinary airmen."

... is not have 'galleries' and 'stalls' in an airplane's cabin: an officer and general are beside a soldier. They do not take their places according to rank but in jump order. We approach the open yawning hatch in this order, closely pressed together, feeling the breathing of each other and the heartbeats...."

The command starts to load equipment and personnel into the aircraft: the airborne take their places in the cabins of the airships, and the combat vehicles crawl into the open doors of the hatches. The "enemy", far to bear, does not now suspect that he will soon have to receive this blow from the clouds--the blow of the assault landing forces.

... Finally, the Trojan Horse, by means of which the Greeks seized the citadel of Troy after a long seige, can be considered the first assault landing. The centuries hurried by. Assault forms and methods changed. Only the essence remained unchanged down to our day--to break through into the rear and inflict a surprise strike on the enemy. From the mock-up of horses to a modern air liner--such is the qualitative jump in the equipment and delivering assault forces.

The parachute has its own history. Its inventor was a Russian artillery warrant officer, G. E. Kotel'nikov. In a quarter of a century -- 6 August 1910--he will take part in the opening of the All-Union Meeting of Parachutists during a sports holiday in Tushina. In his book "Parashyut", G. E. Kotel'nikov says the following about this event: "a parachute landing...a fantastic picture! However, it is doubtful if those who are present and all who see this picture can feel that which I feel.... I remember the past with bitterness.... 'Legs will be torn off', 'Declined as not wanted', 'A parachute in aviation is a harmful thing'. What luck that all this left like a bad dream! That about which I could only dream, I saw while awake with my own eyes...."

Our country is also the motherland of the first aerial assault landing. On 1 August 1930, the first assault jump in the world was made by 12 people near a small farm in the vicinity of Voronezh. During the years of the Great Patriotic War, the largest air assault landing was employed in the fascists' rear in the area of Vyaz'ma and Yukhnov during the Soviet troops' counter offensive at Moscow. The 4th Airborne Corps, numbering no less than 10,000 people, jumped in ten days.

During the Dvina maneuvers which took place in the spring of 1970, a little more than twenty minutes were required to land a division with heavy combat equipment. Large units from the move, straight from the air, engaged the "enemy" in battle. Almost a decade has passed since then....

... The "front line" drifted past under the liner's wing. Captain Arshinov turned out the command map and immediately noted: changes had taken place to the battlefield since the plotting of the tactical situation -- the attackers had moved forward. The battalion commander found the blue

topographical conventional symbol. On the ground, it was a large well defended "enemy" command post. It was necessary to destroy it with a vertical envelopment from the clouds....

There was still a little further to fly. An air battle for air supremacy had started over the assault's drop zone. The yellow light flashed on the display.

"Get ready!"

The jumpers stand at ease. The siren howls deeply. The doors of the hatches are thrust open with the sound. Below, near the edge of the drop zone-- a string of tractors. They are doing the autumn ploughing. The battalion commander thought: "corn growers and soldiers are in the field year round. One grows grain, the other--military skill."

Like a shot, the command rang out: "Go!"

Free fall through the resilient currents of cold wind, the lulling rustling of the silk, the usual clap on the head... The battalion descends to the ground on the white snow of the canopies. The battalion commander, manipulating the straps, deployed himself to face the wind and gathers himself together before landing. Automatic weapons are already working on the ground -- the detachment for seizing the drop zone is waging an unequal battle for it. The battalion supports it by firing right from the air.

One after the other, the guardmen land and hurry to their combat machines. The chains fastening them to the platforms fall with a crash. One engine roared, a bluish violet shot up over a second machine, a third. And here are the combat vehicles rushing across the black autumn field. Only separate "enemy" targets, which are destroyed from the move appear on the way. However, the airbornemen well know that only small size forces of the opposing side are still in the area. The "enemy's" shock after the surprise strike is on the point of passing. Expect a swiftly organized counterattack. From what direction?

Battalion commander Arshinov looked at the map, put himself in the position of the opposing side's commander, and understood: It is necessary to expect a surprise flanking attack from the grove that runs at an oblique angle to the road. The decision? To leave one company to repulse the counter-attack, and to attack the headquarters and communications center with the two other companies....

The schedules of the company columns grow at a rapid rate from the chaotic steel flow. The excellent company of Guards Captain Aleksandr Stonik spearheads the attack. The company commander sees the forest of the other's uniforms in the periscope. The column of armored personnel carriers moved at maximum speed to hit it in the flank. The airbornemen's cannon struck. Carried away, they did not notice that several tanks had crept out from behind an unnamed hill. The guardmen took up a circular defense and put the ATOM--anti-tank guided missiles -- into action. The airbornemen left several holes in the black square targets. A bit too much, but reliable....

And again the winged guard moves in a single rush to attack. Now they are on the near approaches to the command post where one of the battalion's companies was fighting. A hail of "enemy" fire from pill-boxes, from trenches.... However, their "out of action" machines also were ablaze. The airbornemen received the order to hurry.

Soon, using automatic weapons fire and pocket artillery, they fearlessly engaged in hand-to-hand combat. Clearing the trenches and communications trenches, they penetrated into the rear. Here, one could well see from an observation tower that the hand-to-hand combat was in full swing in the complicated labyrinths of the field headquarters CP engineer works... The assault forces are winning the battle.

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## TOLUBKO ON TASKS OF STRATEGIC ROCKET FORCES

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 22, Nov 79 pp 2-3

[Interview with Arm Gen V. F. Tolubko, commander of the Strategic Rocket Forces, deputy USSR minister of defense, and Hero of Socialist Labor: "The Strategic Rocket Forces Are at Their Combat Launch Sites"]

[Text] The Strategic Rocket Forces are 20 years old. In connection with this anniversary our correspondent asked the commander of the Strategic Rocket Forces, Arm Gen V. S. Tolubko, deputy USSR minister of defense and Hero of Socialist Labor, to answer some questions.

[Question] Comrade commander, what role do the Strategic Rocket Forces as a branch of the Armed Forces play in strengthening the defensive capabilities of our country?

[Answer] Despite our relative youth, for 20 years is not a very long time in history, the Strategic Rocket Forces have managed to earn the love and justify the hopes of the Soviet people as a reliable shield for our native land.

Our units and subunits are armed with powerful modern weapons and combat equipment. Soviet strategic missiles can carry nuclear warheads of enormous capacity and can reach any point on the globe. They are highly reliable and precise in delivering the warhead to the target. Neither bad weather nor the season and time of day disturb them. All these things make the Rocket Forces an important means of restraining any aggressor.

The new, unprecedented combat potential and exceptional capabilities of nuclear missiles have brought about radical changes in the nature and methods of armed combat and in the development of all military affairs. Precise consideration of all these capabilities and special characteristics made it possible to organize all work to strengthen the defensive capability of the Soviet Motherland on a qualitatively new basis

that guarantees the inviolability of the peaceful constructive labor of our people.

I will say bluntly that, in the hands of the Communist Party and Soviet Government, who follow a consistent foreign policy line of peaceful co-existence and struggle tirelessly for peace, the Strategic Rocket Forces, like the other branches of the Soviet Armed Forces, are a mighty tool to curb those who unashamedly provoke a new world war. Part of the credit for the fact that our people have not heard military alerts for almost 35 years belongs to the Soviet fighting men, and the Strategic Rocket Forces have made a worthy contribution.

[Question] But this reliable shield, as you so well put it, could only be forged in a proper workshop by skillful hands. Isn't that true?

[Answer] Yes, that is one of the principal conditions of our country's defensive might. The Soviet people, building a brilliant communist society under the leadership of the Communist Party, elevated science and engineering to such a height and created such an economic and social base that they were able very quickly to solve the highly complex problems of creating Rocket Forces, equipping them with continuously developing and improving combat equipment and weapons, and staffing them with highly skilled specialists.

The development of rocket engineering in our country has received fixed attention from V. I. Lenin, the party, and the government since the first days of Soviet power. Vladimir Il'ich gave every possible support to K. E. Tsiolkovskiy's scientific work in the field of aerodynamics, rocket building, and the theory of interplanetary communication. Time has confirmed the wisdom of this policy. During the five-year plans the essential conditions were created for work in this promising new field: scientific research establishments, experimental and production facilities, and the like. Outstanding Soviet scientists, engineers and technicians, and the craftsmen with their "golden hands" were involved in work in this field. In a short interview it is simply impossible to list all the famous names. I will mention just a few. Among them were K. E. Tsiolkovskiy, N. I. Tikhomirov, F. A. Tsander, B. S. Petropavlovskiy, G. E. Langemak, V. A. Artem'yev, I. T. Kleymenov, S. P. Korolev, and others as well as the whole group of atomic scientists led by I. V. Kurchatov.

It is our good fortune that Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the outstanding figure of the Communist Party and Soviet State, was present in the development of nuclear missiles and our rocket forces. His strong will, organizational talent, and authoritative knowledge made it possible to resolve complex problems smoothly and well.

Comrades D. F. Ustinov, G. K. Zhukov, R. Ya. Malinovskiy, N. N. Voronov, M. I. Nedelin, K. S. Moskalenko, S. S. Biryuzov, N. I. Krylov, and other outstanding Soviet military leaders made invaluable contributions to this cause.

The development of Soviet nuclear missile power was more than a victory in military affairs. It was also an enormous political victory of great international importance. I cannot help recalling the embarrassment once experienced by violent enemies of the Soviet Union who were insisting on a preventive nuclear war against us. A few days before the TASS announcement published in PRAVDA on 20 August 1953 that we had tested one type of hydrogen bomb, Harry Truman made the sensational, but unfortunate statement: "I am not sure that Russia has the bomb. I am not sure that the Russians have enough technical knowledge to assemble all the complex mechanisms of a bomb and make them work."

But the boastful gentlemen across the ocean ultimately had to admit the scientific-technical genius of our people and the mighty economic potential of the Soviet State. Another implacable enemy of the Soviet Union, John Foster Dulles, drew this striking conclusion: "By putting an end to our monopoly, the Soviet Union changed the strategic situation in its favor. The ability of the United States to drop an atomic bomb on Russia was in large part neutralized by the ability of Russia to drop an atomic bomb on the United States and Western Europe."

[Question] As you said, comrade commander, the Rocket Forces are a relatively young branch of the Armed Forces. But of course, they have rich combat traditions. Where did they begin?

[Answer] Yes, our combat rockets have an interesting history of their own and deep roots. As far back as 1827 V. M. Vnukov, a captain in the Russian Army, took command of a "rocket company" formed of 18 launchers. The Russian Army successfully used combat rockets in the Crimean War of 1853-1856 and at later times. But only in Soviet times have rockets, or to be more precise, rocket artillery, taken a worthy place in the ranks.

The Strategic Rocket Forces inherited the glorious combat traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces, but we especially treasure the combat traditions of the Guards mortar units, the legendary "katyusha's" whose powerful volleys spread terror among the enemy during the Great Patriotic War. The first rocket unit, which was commanded by Maj Gen Arty A. F. Tveretskiy, was formed in July 1946 on the basis of a Guards mortar regiment. Guards troops were also the first to bring their missiles onto combat duty. And now it has been 20 years that the fame of these Guards has been expanded by the intensive military labor of the rocket forces, whose life is like life at the front.

[Question] You mentioned the combat duty of rocket troops. Could you please, comrade commander, tell our readers a little more detail about it?

[Answer] The entire history of the Soviet State confirms the wisdom of Lenin's teachings on the necessity of armed defense of the Motherland. For more than 60 years we have been forced, figuratively speaking, to hold the plow and hammer in one hand, and the rifle and rocket in the

other. But if we are forced to maintain our military might at the level of contemporary requirements, it is exclusively in the interests of defending our country, in the interests of preserving world peace.

The constitutional duty of the Soviet Armed Forces is to be in constant readiness to guarantee the immediate repulsion of any aggressor. We rocket troops understand that our sacred duty is to have all our forces in readiness to carry out assigned missions unconditionally at any time and under any conditions. That is what constant combat readiness is in the Rocket Forces. It finds its fullest expression in continuous combat duty.

Going on combat duty is an event of enormous state importance for every rocket soldier. He is admitted to this duty after passing an appropriate, one might say "state," examination which reveals the thorough knowledge, skills, habits, and combat capabilities of each specialist alone and of the entire military collective as a whole.

The day of going on combat duty is a particularly solemn day. It begins with a ritual that has already become traditional. During this the soldier is given the battle order. The deeply meaningful words "Enter combat duty to insure the security of our Motherland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" resound as the mandate of our country.

The crimson flag flutters on its staff; it will not come down until the combat team finishes its shift. Then it will be immediately put up again by the best rocket soldiers of the next duty shift. And as long as there is a threat of war on earth, this fluttering symbol of readiness for immediate battle will wave proudly at launch sites.

After taking their positions at the consoles, the rocket soldiers carry out their prescribed duties day and night. Their strong will, thought, skills, and everything good that people are capable of are now subordinated to a single goal: performing the combat mission as well as possible. This is true at our battle positions and at those of our neighbors, our comrades. The highest meaning of all the laborious work of the rocket forces lies in high vigilance and constant combat readiness to carry out a battle order immediately and unconditionally.

[Question] In your opinion, comrade commander, what distinguishes the rocket soldier from other combat occupations and specializations; what are his principal character traits?

[Answer] All Soviet fighting men have traditionally taken pride in their combat occupations and military specializations. Each one is good in its own way, and necessary and important, and together they make up a unified, multifaceted, strongly united collective that is faithful to its duty. This collective is called the Armed Forces. Soviet fighting men, raised by the Communist Party, are distinguished by high ideological, moral-psychological, and physical conditioning, profound knowledge of military affairs, and combat skills.

All the same, service in the Rocket Forces has specific characteristics which leave a definite imprint on the character and moral makeup of the rocket soldier. To be a rocket soldier affords a special kind of pride. It is indivisible from awareness of the great personal responsibility of every individual, from the soldier to the general, for the fate of our country and of peace throughout the world. This factor gives the rocket soldier a thirst for knowledge, a yearning for consistent improvement in combat skills, and a desire to be capable of performing missions, to keep up with the development of military affairs, and most importantly, to be on guard at all times.

Rocket weapons, built on the basis of the latest advances in science and technology, demand vast knowledge of automation, remote control, electronics, ballistics, nuclear physics, mathematics, and chemistry. It is no surprise that we have a very high percentage of officers with engineering education. Among them are some with advanced degrees. The young men sent to us for regular military service have a high level of education and have gone through good elementary military training. This helps them develop quickly into highly rated specialists and true masters of military affairs. The very character of our work teaches rocket soldiers military smartness and constant internal discipline; this precludes slackness, indifference, and carelessness. The rocket soldier is a master of his work and supports the strongest discipline and strict regulation order.

At the same time a large majority of our rocket soldiers are modest, likeable men with all the qualities of ordinary human beings. They love a good joke and happy laughter. There are some who consider serious reading a great pleasure and joy, while others prefer to spend their leisure time in amateur artistic activities. We have many efficiency workers and inventors, as well as poets and artists. Our men have intelligent, sensitive teachers, the commanders, political workers, and political activists who try to encourage and develop the individual traits of each man, those characteristics which, taken together, make up the individual character of the Soviet young man performing his noble military duty. The steadily improving material and domestic conditions of life and work for the rocket forces are helping in this.

[Question] What kind of successes in socialist competition did the rocket forces have in the training year?

[Answer] At the start of the training year, at the initiative of the military unit commanded by Lt Col M. Kolosov, socialist competition developed broadly in the Rocket Forces under the slogan: "Vigilantly guard the gains of socialism, raise combat readiness and the level of combat skills by every means." The troops obligated themselves to continue the campaign to raise class ratings, cut norms, master related specializations, learn to operate with smaller teams, and so on. A large place in competition was assigned to ideological-political and moral-ethical indoctrination, specifically to creating a moral climate in each military collective where people live and work harmoniously, cheerfully, and with benefit to each member.

We can now say that the rocket soldiers fulfilled their obligations with honor and built a reliable foundation for a worthy celebration of the 110th anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin and the 35th anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

The names of masters of combat specializations and soldiers who distinguish themselves in combat and political training, for example, Capt A. Zorin, WO [Praporshchik] V. Kulichenko, Jr Sgt I. Korneyev, Pvt R. Katalov, and many others, are well-known in the Rocket Forces.

All the personnel of the Rocket Forces thoroughly understand their missions to defend the interests of our Motherland and the countries of the socialist community. They are standing combat duty vigilantly, full of determination to rise to a new, higher level of combat skill.

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